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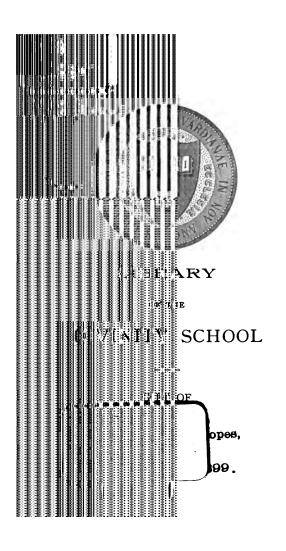
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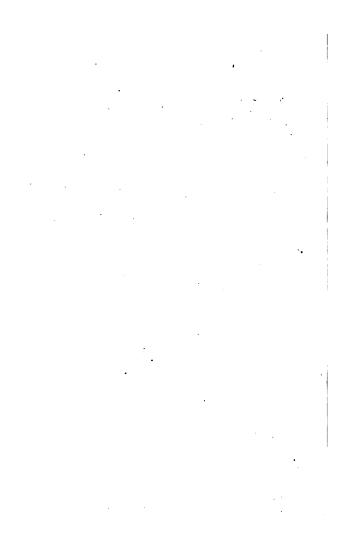
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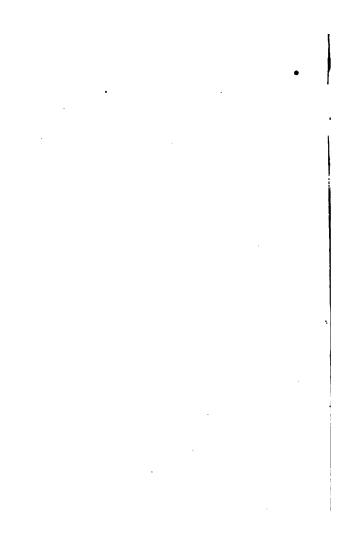
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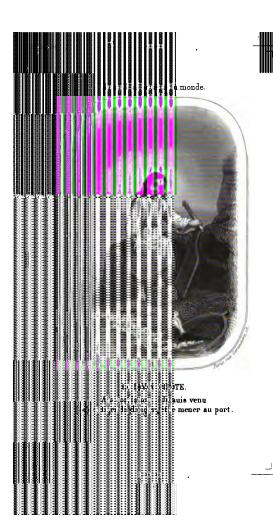
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THE DIVINE PILOT.

LORD, I WILL FOLLOW THEE WHITHERSOEVER THOU GOEST."

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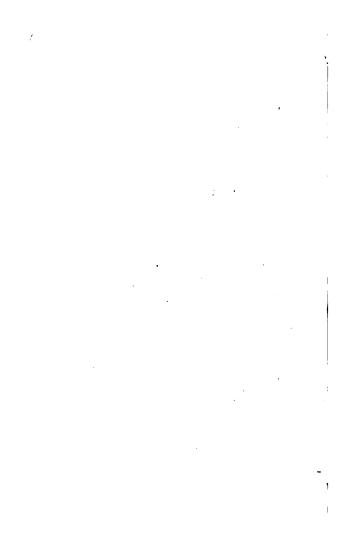
or

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

OF THE

Church of the Adbent,

NEW YORK.



PREFACE.

Those who have read Bearing the Cross, or the Divine Master, will give this little volume, we trust, as warm a welcome. Like its predecessor, it is translated from a sweet, devout work in the French tongue, with some needful modifications, and will be found a help to earnest souls aiming to lead a divine life. Christian life is here figured in the events of a perilous voyage. The Divine Pilot, under a lovely human form, guides the vessel. The soul appears in the semblance of a bird.

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THE DIVINE PILOT.

I.

SELF-RENUNCIATION.

On feeble soul, give o'er at length,
Trust all to me. I come,
With heart of love, and arm of strength,
To bring thee safely home.

"Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."

Christ to the Soul.

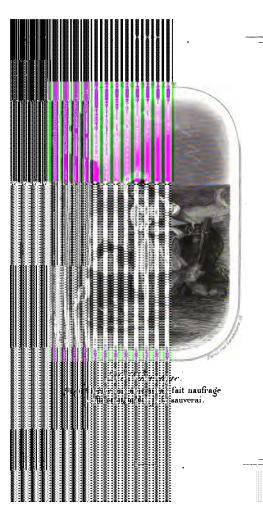
POOR Sour, thou hast believed thyself able to guide thine own frail bark through these treacherous seas. Thou hast foundered at the first attempt. And now I hasten to bring thee aid. I am thy God,

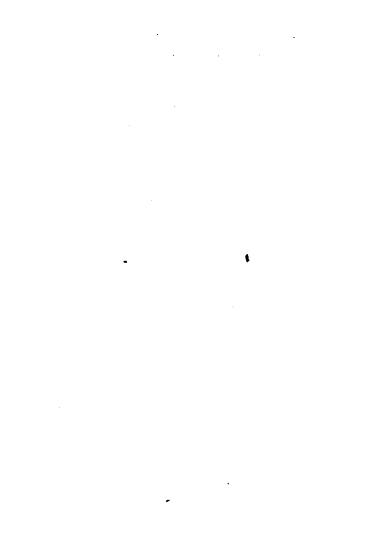
thy Redeemer. I am He of whom it is written, A bruised reed shall he not break. Fear not to trust thyself to me, and I will save thee.

The Soul to Christ.

COME, DIVINE PILOT, come. I shudder at my folly and rashness. I commit myself to thy fatherly care. I am thine. Ignorant and weak, be thou my guide, and my support.

"All my trust on thee is stayed,
All my hope from thee I bring;
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow of thy wing."





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TT.

LOOKING TO JESUS.

THOUGH every human hope be lost Beneath the treacherous wave, Look up, thou ransomed one, and know How strong he is to save!

"My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth. In him have I put all my trust."

Christ to the Soul.

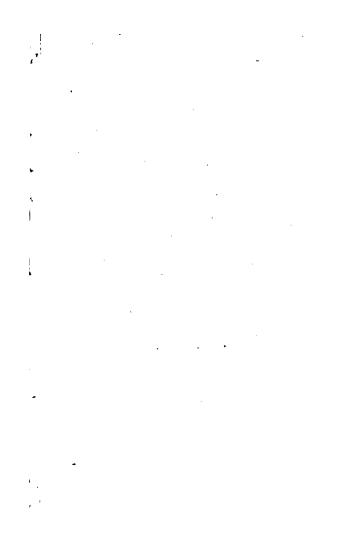
AM NOT COME TO DESTROY MEN'S LIVES, BUT TO SAVE THEM.

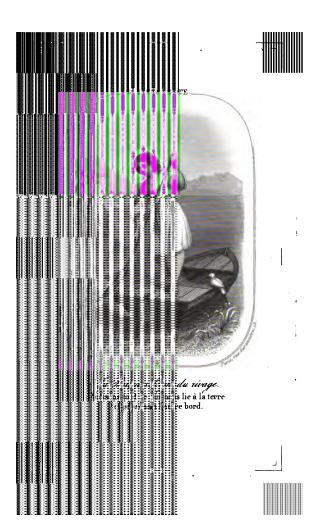
Take courage, poor soul, thy shattered bark shall be restored. My cross shall be erected as its mast. By this sign thou shalt conquer. It is the token of salvation. Bind all thy hopes around the cross. Behold it in thy distresses. Take it for thy shield in the day of conflict. Cling closely to its safe shelter in the midst of storms, and beware thou leave not ever this new tree of life.

The Soul to Christ.

OH, BLESSED MASTER! away with every doubt. I hold to the anchor of true trust, and yield me to thy guidance. Conduct me where thou wilt. Experience proves my weakness. I mourn the fault, which thou wilt pardon. And may my soul ever bear its grateful testimony to thy loving mercy.

In the tempest of life, when the wave and the gale Are around, and above, if thy courage should fail, If faith should grow feeble, and hope should depart, Look aloft, and be firm, and be fearless of heart.







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III.

LEAVING ALL FOR CHRIST.

OH gladly, gladly, Lord, I leave All that has pleased me best. Open thy boundless heart of love, And shut out all the rest.

"Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest!"

The Soul to Christ.

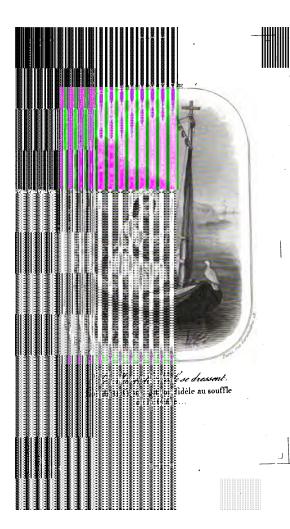
BLESSED Lord, who toilest at the oar, I feel that we are moving away, and I desire truly, fervently, to resign all for thee. But though we have left the shores of the world, its crowd calls me back as from afar. Why this inward, unexpected war—this conflict of my will? I find a law in my members, warring against the law of my mind.

Christ to the Soul.

ON! on! poor soul: it is the beginning of thy spiritual life. Look not behind thee. Whosever forsaketh not all that he hath, cannot be my disciple. Human ties will grow weaker as thou advancest; and when thy heart can give up every earthly prop, if thou shalt then say to me as my disciples of old, We have left all to follow thee, what shall we have therefore? I will answer thee also, An hundred fold now in this time, and in the world to come, eternal life.

"I have called thee Abba, Father,
I have set my love on thee:
Storms may howl and clouds may gather,
All must work for good, to me."

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IV.

PRESSING FORWARD.

Now let the Heavenly breath of love Fill every swelling sail. "Awake, thou North wind, come, thou South," Bound, Bark, before the gale.

" Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation."

Christ to the Soul.

SEE, MY CHILD, every thing is favorable. The cross forms an indispensable mast to thy bark, and with sail unfurled, and prosperous winds, we shall make rapid progress.

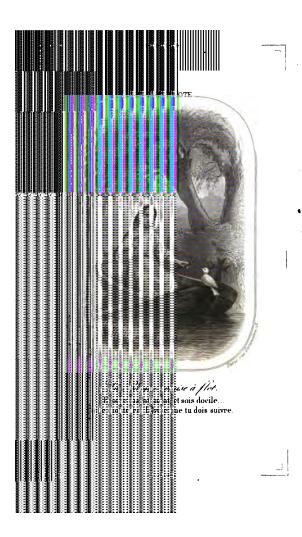
The Soul to Christ.

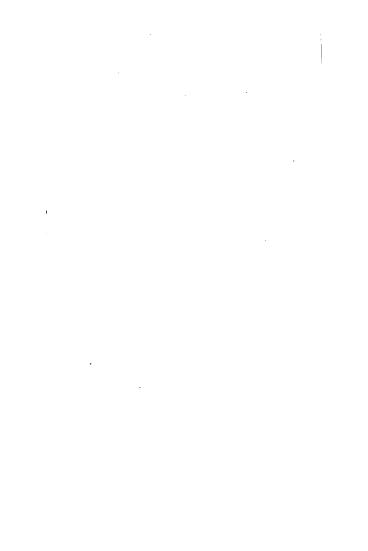
YES, DEAR LORD, thy cross teaches me to bear cheerfully with all the evils of the way; and constant fervent prayer

is the sail which catches the divine breath, the winds of grace. Come, Holy Spirit, guide me to the realms above! Dear Lord, all my desire is to press onward to thy Heavenly Kingdom.

"There brighter bowers than Eden's, bloom, Nor sin nor sorrow know: Blest seat, through rude and stormy scenes, I onward press to you!"







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V.

THE MASTER'S WILL

STILL guide me at thine own dear will, I give up all to thee: What thou wouldst have me be and do, That would I do and be.

"Teach me to do thy will, O Lord, for thou art my God."

Christ to the Soul.

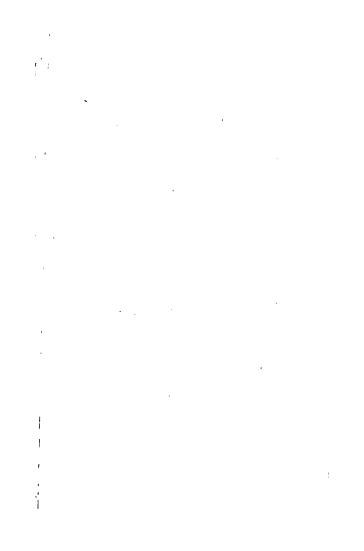
MY Child, now must thy submission be brought to the test, not for one, nor two days, but through the whole voyage. Thou hast vowed fidelity to me. On thee it rests, under my guidance, to make thy way a peaceful one. Mine, dear child, is a way of constant toil, a way of sacrifice, of death to thine own will, that leads thee oft astray.

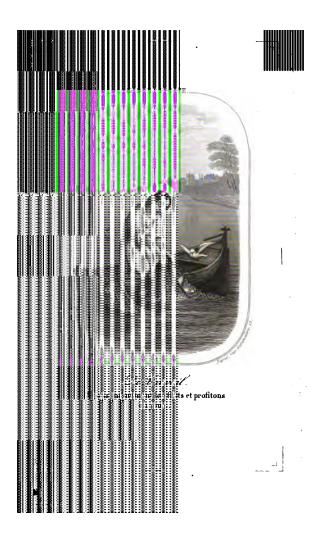
Thou must be ready, then, to bear all pain, or loss, even to thy life's blood, rather than be ever separated from me.

The Soul to Christ.

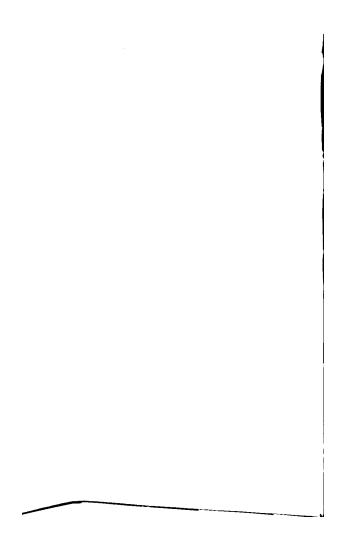
EVEN so, dear Lord. I acquiesce in all; and with thy grace, I can do all things. Lord, what wouldst thou have me do? I long to give thee some proof of my heartfelt love. I leave myself in thy hands, as a little trusting child leaves himself, and all belonging to him, in the hands of a tender father.

My times are in thy hand;
My God, I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my all, I leave
Entirely in thy care.





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VI.

FAITH WORKING BY LOVE.

LORD, at thy word I cast my net,
This empty net of mine;
For the rich freights thy love intends,
The glory all be thine!

" Of myself, I can do nothing, but I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Christ to the Soul.

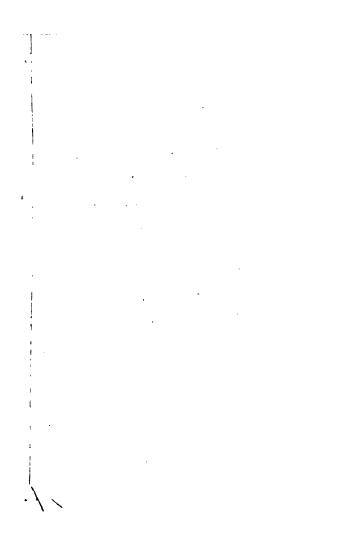
I AM showing thee, my child, how to lay up treasure for Eternity. My disciples had been toiling three nights, and taken nothing, when I came and blessed their labors, and the supply was abundant.

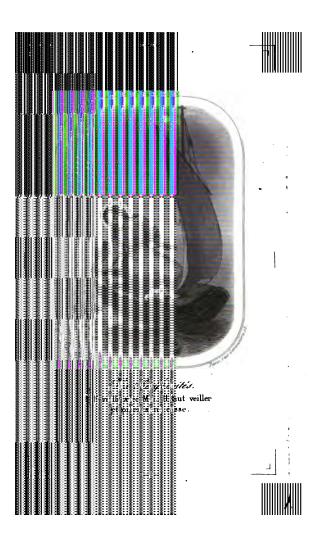
The most trifling things performed with the design of pleasing me, are of more value, in my sight, than the grandest work of charity, without this simple purity of motive. Love gives to all my followers' acts their worth.

The Soul to Christ.

YES, dear Lord, I know that every work unblessed by thee is labor lost. There fore, I would do nothing henceforth but with thee, by thee, and for thee. Alas! men only look upon the outer show; while thou, my God, weighest all things in the scales of sincerity and truth.

"Toiling early in the morning, Catching moments through the day; Nothing small or lowly scorning, While we work, and watch, and pray."





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VII.

DANGER NEAR.

NIGHT darkens on the dangerous way,
And unknown perils throng:
Poor soul! here Reason's glimmering ray
Cannot avail. Oh, watch and pray,
And in His strength be strong.

"Mine eyes are ever towards the Lord; for he hath plucked my feet out of the net."

Christ to the Soul.

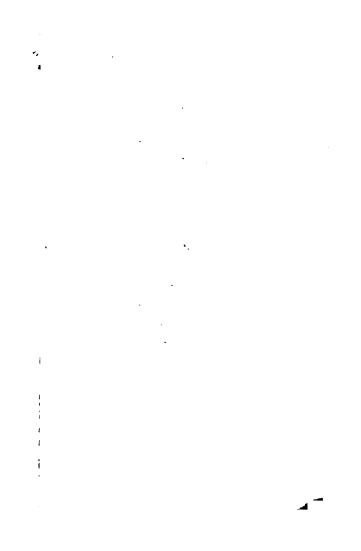
MY CHILD, the night is coming on, and the moon's struggling rays can hardly reach the little bark. There are rocks, which it will take the utmost care to pass safely; for "Strait is the way that leadeth unto life." Watch and pray, and let all thy trust be in me. "He who followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." My wis-

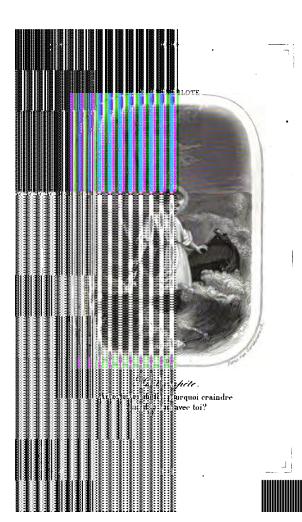
dom and strength can ward off all danger; and never shall a trusting soul, that has given itself up to a Saviour's guidance, be left to perish.

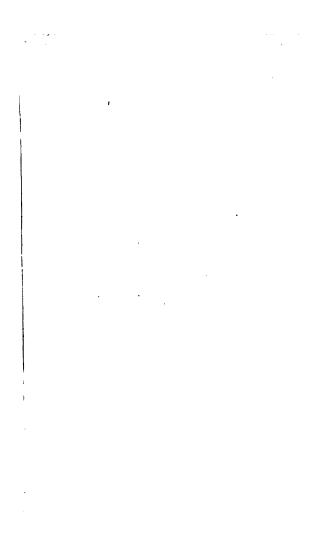
The Soul to Christ.

H, how precious, dearest Master, are thy words! Thou art the strength of all those who put their trust in thee. Thou art the author and the finisher of our faith. On thine exhaustless grace shall all my hope be stayed.

"He will not let thy foot be moved,
Thy guardian will not sleep:
Behold, the God that slumbers not
Will favored Israel keep."







VIII.

CHRIST IN THE STORM.

OH, Master, hear the raging winds, The threatening billows see! I sink beneath the angry surge, Carest thou not for me?

"Lord, save us, we perish!"

The Soul to Christ.

A LL is over, dear Lord, with the vessel! The winds rage. The tempest beats over her. The thunders roar. There is no refuge—no hope of safety.

Christ to the Soul.

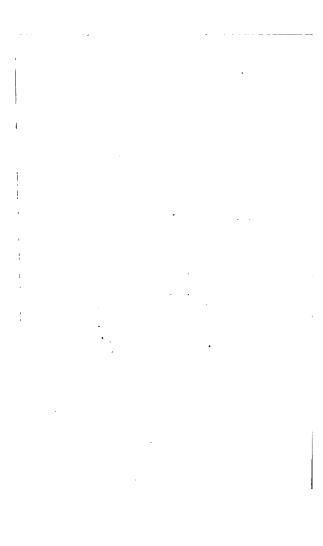
MY CHILD, be of good courage, fear not. Though the mast seem to give way, the sail be rent in pieces, the oar be

carried away, and the waters even engulf thee; if thy faith remain firm, with me thou art safe. Hast thou forgotten that I am thy Saviour?

As long as Peter was all zeal, all love, he walked upon the water. When he gave way to fear, his faith wavered, and he would have sunk beneath the waves, had not I stretched forth my hand to uphold and lead him.

THE SOUL.—Forgive me, Lord, my unquiet fears. Alas! my trust is not yet firm. Sustain me, too, dear Master, and kindle in me such a fire of faith that I shall never fail.

Look not below, where all is dark and drear; The thought of that wild waste is full of fear; But look, with steadfast look, above, And see thy Saviour's outstretched arm of love!



IX:

HEAVENLY PEACE.

"OH thou afflicted, tempest-tossed," Let Him do what he will: The storm is his, the calm is his, And thou art his—be still!

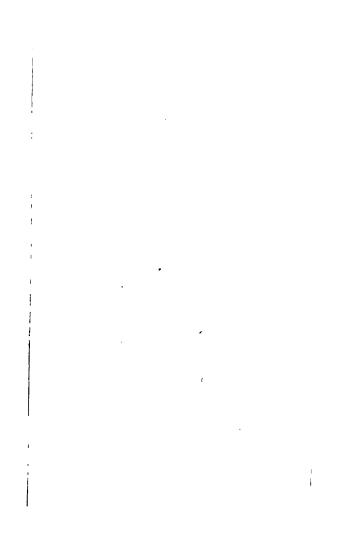
"A man shall be as an hiding-place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest."

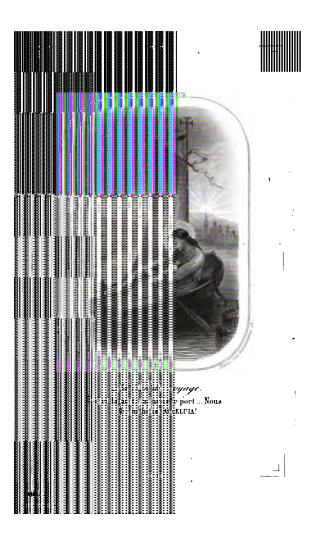
"PEACE, BE STILL!" At the first word of this mighty voice, the waves of the heart, like those of the sea, are calmed. Oh! then, to the poor soul oppressed by suffering, and turning to its Saviour in grateful acknowledgment, and saying, with a saintly lover of the cross, "And where wert thou then, my God?" comes the whisper, "In thy heart, poor child; but, as it were, hidden. Left to thyself, without my grace, thou couldst not have endured."

The Soul to Christ.

THE consolations of the world are a mockery. The voice of friendship, even, is vain. Thou, alone, O my God, givest patience, and bringest peace. Be with me still, my God; leave me not, lest thy poor weak child be overwhelmed.

"Now tranquil as a summer's eve, And safe, is the expanded wave; No tender object of his care Has ever suffered shipwreck there."





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X.

THE HARBOR GAINED.

And now the haven! All is o'er:
Rude storm and driving gale
Have done their work:—forever safe,
Anchored within the veil.

Jesus was with them, "and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went."

Christ to the Soul.

APPY Soul, mine forever! Come, thou blessed of my Father. Now shalt thou see how all the toils and weariness of the way were working together for thy good. Now shall the tempests of the world be followed by the calm of Paradise; the gloom of night, by joyous day; tears by tranquillity, and toil by rest. Thou shalt sit down to feast with all the faithful and the saints, and see the heavenly Jerusalem beyond.

The Soul to Christ.

OH, BLESSED MASTER! this is too much bliss. What have I done for thee, my Lord and God, that I should taste of such transporting joy? To be folded in thy arms, to see thee always—where day has no darkness, and sorrow is over, and pain never comes! To love thee and possess thee forever!

Into the harbor of rest now we glide,
Our perilous voyage is done;
Softly we drift on the bright silver tide,
The port of lost Paradise won.

Glory to God! all our dangers are o'er,

We wait for his call on the glorified shore:
Glory to God! we will sing evermore,

To Father and Spirit and Son.

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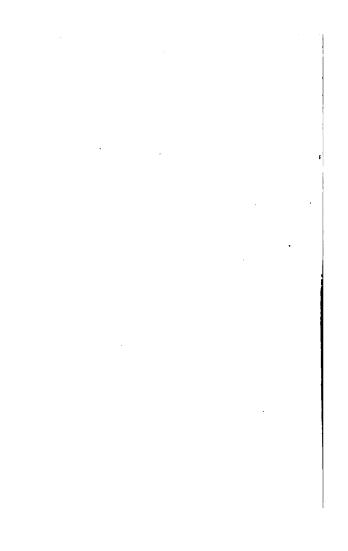
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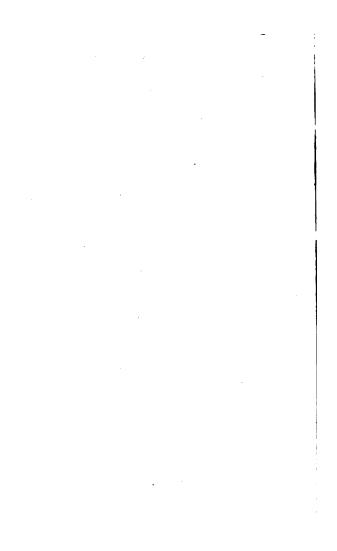


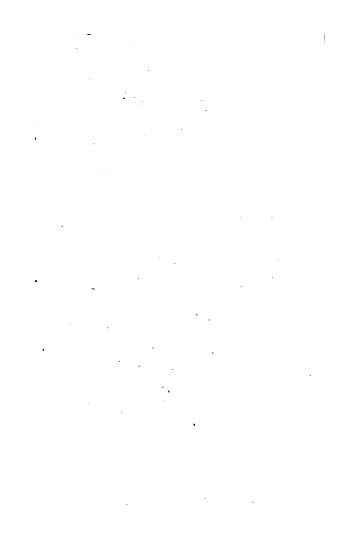
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